

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-4 have been cancelled.

1-4. (Cancelled)

Claim 5 has been amended as follows:

5 5. (Currently amended) A biventricular cardiac stimulation device comprising:

a pulse generator ~~adapted~~ configured to interact respectively with ventricles of a heart to deliver stimulation pulses to each of the ventricles;

10 a control unit connected to the pulse generator ~~to operate~~ that operates the pulse generator to emit a stimulation pulse to a first-stimulated ventricle, followed by a VV time delay, followed by a stimulation pulse to a second-stimulated ventricle;

15 an evoked response detector ~~adapted~~ configured to interact with the ventricles and having independent, first and second ventricular sensing channels ~~to~~ that detect ventricular evoked response in the respective ventricles, said evoked response detector searching for an evoked response following delivery of a stimulation pulse to said first-stimulated ventricle in an evoked response detection time window;

20 said control unit setting said VV time delay to be shorter than said evoked response detection time window; and

25 said evoked response detector closing said evoked response detecting time window, or discarding detections therein, in response to emission of the stimulation pulse to the second-stimulated ventricle during said evoked response detection time window following said first-stimulated ventricle.

30 6. (Previously presented) A biventricular cardiac stimulation device as claimed in claim 5, comprising an inhibiting unit that inhibits stimulation of said second-stimulated ventricle in response to detection, by said evoked response detector, of a sensed intrinsic cardiac event in said second-stimulated ventricle.

7. (Previously presented) A biventricular cardiac stimulation device as claimed in claim 5 wherein said control unit sets said VV time delay to be less than 40 msec.

8. (Previously presented) A biventricular cardiac stimulation device as claimed in claim 7 wherein said control unit sets said VV time delay in a range between 10 and 30 msec.

9. (Previously presented) A biventricular cardiac stimulation device as claimed in claim 5 wherein said evoked response detector sets said evoked response detection time window for said first-stimulated ventricle to be in a range between 40 and 100 msec.

Claim 10 has been amended as follows:

10. (Currently amended) A method for biventricular cardiac stimulation comprising the steps of:

with an implanted [[a]] pulse generator, automatically delivering
15 ~~adapted to interact respectively with ventricles of a heart to deliver stimulation pulses respectively to each of the ventricles of a heart;~~

~~automatically controlling operation of a control unit connected to the pulse generator to operate the pulse generator to emit a stimulation pulse to a first-stimulated ventricle, followed by a VV time delay, followed by a stimulation pulse to a second-stimulated ventricle;~~

with an implanted evoked response detector adapted to interact with the ventricles and having independent, first and second ventricular sensing channels, automatically detecting to detect ventricular evoked response in the respective ventricles, said evoked response detector by searching for an evoked response following delivery of a stimulation pulse to said first-stimulated ventricle in an evoked response detection time window;

30 with said control unit, setting said VV time delay to be shorter than said evoked response detection time window; and

automatically causing said evoked response detector closing to close said evoked response detecting time window, or discarding to discard detections therein, in response to emission of the stimulation pulse to the second-stimulated ventricle during said evoked response detection time window following said first-stimulated ventricle.

Claim 11 has been amended as follows:

11. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim [[5]] 10,
comprising an inhibiting unit that inhibits stimulation of said second-stimulated
10 ventricle in response to detection, by said evoked response detector, of a
sensed intrinsic cardiac event in said second-stimulated ventricle.

Claim 12 has been amended as follows:

12. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 5
wherein said control unit sets 10 comprising setting said VV time delay to be
15 less than 40 msec.

Claim 13 has been amended as follows:

13. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 7
~~wherein said control unit sets 12 comprising setting said VV time delay in a range between 10 and 30 msec.~~

20 Claim 14 has been amended as follows:

14. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 5
wherein said evoked response detector sets 13 comprising setting said
evoked response detection time window for said first-stimulated ventricle to be
in a range between 40 and 100 msec.

25 Add the following new claims:

15. (New) A method as claimed in claim 12 comprising setting said evoked response detection time window for said first-stimulated ventricle to be in a range between 40 and 100 msec.

16. (New) A method as claimed in claim 10 comprising setting said
30 evoked response detection time window for said first-stimulated ventricle to be
in a range between 40 and 100 msec.